

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

The Status of the Claims

1.- 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for checking broadband network components, the method comprising:

providing an interactive voice response (IVR) interface for affecting a broadband network component;

receiving a request via the IVR, to ~~affect a broadband network component~~ initiate a test signal at a digital subscriber line access module, the request being received from a first system; and

automatically conveying the request to a second system, the second system being configured to ~~affect the broadband network component~~ communicate the request to the digital subscriber line access module;

receiving the request from the second system at the digital subscriber line access module; and

transmitting the test signal detectable by test equipment from the digital subscriber line access module in response to the request.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5:

wherein the first system operates under a first protocol; and

wherein the second system operates under a second protocol.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 comprising:
translating the request from the first protocol into the second protocol.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the request further comprises:
receiving a request to condition a digital subscriber line (DSL) port.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the request further comprises:
receiving a dual-tone multi-frequency (DTMF) signal.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the request further comprises:
receiving a voice signal.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the request further comprises:
receiving a request to verify a digital subscriber line (DSL) port.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the request further comprises:
receiving a request to retrieve information related to a digital subscriber line (DSL) port.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the request further comprises:

receiving the request from an Interactive Voice Response Application (IVR application).

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, ~~wherein conveying the translated request to the second system comprises:~~

~~conveying the translated request to a network management system (NMS) wherein the second system is a network management system.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

receiving a response from the second system, the response indicating that the ~~broadband network component has been affected~~digital subscriber line access module has been notified of the request; and

translating the response from the second protocol into the first protocol.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

receiving a response from the second system, the response indicating that the ~~broadband network component has been affected~~digital subscriber line access module has not been notified of the request; and

translating the response from the second protocol into the first protocol.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for checking broadband network components, the method comprising:

providing an interactive voice response (IVR) interface for ~~affecting a broadband network component~~ initiating a test signal at a digital subscriber line access module;

receiving a request via the IVR, to ~~affect a broadband network component~~ initiate the test signal at the digital subscriber line access module, the request being received over a public switched telephone network (PSTN);

conveying the request to a network management system (NMS);

rejecting the request when the test signal has been initiated more than a threshold number of times; and

when the test signal has not been initiated more than a threshold number of times:

locking a port associated with the request;

conveying the request to the digital subscriber line access module via the NMS;

transmitting the test signal detectable by test equipment from the digital subscriber line access module in response to the request;

storing a record of the test signal in a database;

receiving a message from the NMS in response to locking the port and conveying the request; and

transmitting the message over the PSTN.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for checking broadband network components, the method comprising:

providing an interactive voice response (IVR) interface for ~~affecting a broadband network component~~ initiating a test signal at a digital subscriber line access module;

receiving a request via the IVR, to ~~affect a broadband network component~~ initiate the test signal at the digital subscriber line access module, the request being received over a public switched telephone network (PSTN) voice communication line;

conveying the request to a network management system (NMS);

~~affecting the broadband network component~~;

conveying the request to the digital subscriber line access module via the NMS;

transmitting the test signal detectable by test equipment from the digital subscriber line access module in response to the request;

receiving a message from the NMS in response to ~~affecting the broadband network component~~ conveying the request to the digital subscriber line access module; and

transmitting the message over the PSTN.

Please add the following new claims:

19. (New) A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising receiving an identification associated with a port of the digital subscriber line access module via the IVR.

20. (New) A method as defined in claim 19, wherein transmitting the test signal comprises transmitting the test signal on the identified port.

21. (New) A method for checking broadband network components, the method comprising:

 providing an interactive voice response (IVR) interface for affecting a broadband network component;

 receiving a request via the IVR, to initiate a test signal at a digital subscriber line access module, the request being received from a first system;

 automatically conveying the request to a second system, the second system being configured to communicate the request to the digital subscriber line access module;

 communicating the request to the digital subscriber line access module to cause the digital subscriber line access module to transmit the test signal detectable by test equipment from the digital subscriber line access module in response to the request.